एवं हस्तशिल्प क्षेत्रों के उत्पादों के निर्यात को दुगुना लाभ दिया जाता है यदि दर्जे का दावा एफओबी निर्यात मूल्य के हिसाब से किया जाता है। यदि दर्जे का दावा अर्जित निवल विदेशी मुद्रा (एन-एफई) के आधार पर किया जाता है तो, लघु उद्योग द्वारा निर्मित उत्पादों के निर्यात के लिए दुगुना लाभ तथा हथकरघा एवं हस्तशिल्प क्षेत्र द्वारा निर्मित हाथ से बुने गलीचों तथा रेशम के गलीचों के निर्यात से अर्जित निवल विदेशी मुद्रा के लिए तीगुना लाभ दिया जाता है। शुल्क-छूट योजना के तहत, लघु उद्योग इकाइयों को, जहा लागू हो, सामान्य जरूरत के 50% पर बैंक गारन्टी को सुविधा प्रदान की गई है। इसके अलावा. लघु उद्योग क्षेत्र में निर्यात को बढ़ाने के लिए विदेशों में अंतर्राष्ट्रीय प्रदर्शनियों में लघु क्षेत्र इकाइयों की भागीदारी प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम, निर्यात प्रबंध एवं विपणन कार्यक्रम आयोजीत किए जाते हैं।

(ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

(घ) वर्ष 1990-91, 1991-92 तथा 1992-93 में पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान जिनके आंकड़े उपलब्ध है, हुए कुल निर्यात मे लघु उद्योग क्षेत्र का निर्यात का हिस्सा क्रमश: 29.7%, 31.5% तथा 33.1% होने का अनुमान है।

Import Contents of Exports

1788. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the import contents of the country's exports have declined;

(b) if so, the details thereof?

(c) what are the details of the exported items having major import contents; and

(d) the steps taken to reduce import contents of India's exports?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) The import intensity varies from commodity to commodity. While it is high in the case of exports of Gem and Jewellery, the import intensity is marginal or low in the case of exports of primary products like agricultural products and mineral products.

(d) The EXIM policy 1992—97, inter alia, to promote efficient and internationally competitive import substitution and self-reliance under a deregulated framework for foreign trade. It also seeks to foster the country's Research and Development (R&D) and technological capabilities. Under the policy, 'Deemed Exports' have been defined as transactions in which the goods supplied do not leave the country but earn scarce foreign exchange for the country. Benefits such as duty exemption schemes, duty drawback schemes and refund of termial excise duty have been extended to deemed exports. Besides, the Government have also launched, in association with trade and industry, a major nation-wide compaign on quality and to take other steps to bring Indian products to world standards.

Improvement in India's Trade Deficit

1789. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been some improvement in India's trade deficit recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what are the factors responsible for bringing favourable changes in India's trade deficit; and

(d) how Government propose to keep imports under check?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) Estimates of trade deficit for the recent 3 years as per DGCI&S trade statistics are:

	Rs. crores	US $ Million
1991-92 . .	3809	1546
1992-93 . . .	9687	3345
1993-94 . . .	3350	1068

The trade deficit in 1991-92 was lower than that in 1992-93 but higher than that during 1993-94. Lower trade deficit in 1991-92 was due to import compression having been resorted to due to balance of payments crisis.

(c) Increase in level of exports is the main factor for favourable change in trade deficit in 1993-94.

(d) The Export-Import Policy, 1992—97 aims at encouraging efficient and internationally competitive import-substitution within the liberalised framwork of foreign trade, and in line with the Eight Plan Projections.

Agreement between India and Vietnam

1790. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India and Vietnam have recently signed an agree-

ment for stepping up the trade turnover between the two countries; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, during the course of the recent visit to India by a Vietnamese delegation led by their Deputy Minister of Commerce, discussions were held between the two sides. One of the aspects discussed related to the need to take necessary measures to enhance the trade turnover between the two countries.

Strategy enabling India in increasing competitiveness in World Market

1791. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to adopt a new strategy for enabling India to become competitive in the world market; and

(b) if so, what are the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) A series of trade policy reforms have been initiated by the Government for increasing export competitiveness in world markets, notably provision of export-linked imports at near international prices and reduction of import licensing.

Setting up of working group panel for Intellectual Property Rights

1792. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any Working Group Panel has recently been set up for the Intellectual Property Rights rationalisation; harmonisation and modernisation as reportedly disclosed by Mr. MIHALY FICSOR, the D. G. of World Intellectual Property Rights Organisation as reported in the Hindustan Times dated 10th November, 1994;

(b) what is the purpose/major task before this Group and in what manner co-ordination of the legislations in different countries relating to IPRs especially in Trade Related Intellectual Rights would be achieved;

(c) what is the reaction of Government in this regard and to the reported *suggestion of Mr. FICSOR urging India* to become a signatory to the Paris convention; and

(d) in what manner the Patent Co-operation Treaty (PCT) and Madrid Conventions would help Indian inventors and the owner of trade mark in getting the inventions/trade marks patented world-wide in a simple, transparent, efficient and economic way; details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) In the context of agreement on Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights of the GATT Agreement and in order to establish a mutually supportive relationship between the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) and the World Trade Organisation (WTO), the General Assembly of WIPO, in its meetings, held between September 26 to October 4, 1944 decided to establish an adhoc working group open to all Member states of WIPO :—

(i) to advise and co-operate with the Director General of WIPO in his contacts with the competent organs of GATT/WTO;

(ii) to discuss matters concerning possible co-operation between WIPO and WTO; and

(iii) to consider the establishment of an adhoc informal WIPO/GATT-WTO Consultation Group on all matters concering possible co-operation between WIPO and WTO.

(c) On some occasions in the past, the World Intellectual Property Organisation have pointed out the advantages which would be available to India on acceeding to the Paris Convention. However, no decisions have been taken on this issue.

(d) Does not arise as membership of the Paris convention is a prerequisite for joining the PCT and the Madrid Agreement.

Export Intensive Area Sub-Plan Scheme

1793. SHRI S. MADHAVAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to develop export intensive area sub-plan scheme in the non-metropolitan centres having export potential;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) the names of places that will be developed in Tamil Nadu under this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) :